

Would we have all of the events in the past year repeated under the same circumstances? Can we not do better than we did last year? Then *let us turn a new leaf*. The opportunities for doing good were never so great as now. A small effort put forth under the guidance and blessings of God will accomplish more than ever before. Shall we go up and possess the land?

The great Teacher once said to his disciples, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a draught." They replied "Master, we have toiled all night and have caught nothing, nevertheless at thy word we will let down the nets. Though they had toiled and toiled yet their work seemed to have been in vain. They were willing, though to try again. This time they were to *'launch out into the deep'* and search. Since the Lord used the circumstance to impress a spiritual truth, may not we? He told Peter he would make him a fisher of men.

The lesson comes to me, whether it did to Peter or not, that if I wish to be successful it is necessary to "launch out into the deep." To get into the depths of humility; to go out into the depths of God's promises; to drink at the deep springs of his wonderful love. This seems to be the great theme of the Apostles.

We undoubtedly have been fishing where the water is too shallow most of the time. There's nothing but minnows there. We must go where the fishes are—meet them on their own ground. We can not do this by remaining in the shallow water of our own narrowness or of the narrowness of any one else. We must give our cause the character and dignity which it represents.

If our cause is ever to reach beyond the circle of our children it must be made a body of honor. Every position taken must be one of principle. Mean and selfish dispositions, to take advantage of our fellow ministers with nothing behind it but money or popularity must be rooted out. It brings shame and disgrace to any cause. I would not recommend such persons for coaches. Whenever I compromise the dignity and honor of the cause of Christ for personal gain, I hope the church for her own good, will put my

left foot over the line into the world with my right foot where it belongs.

We must get into the depths of true devotion. Brethren, we *must* turn a leaf here. What a grand inspiration in the life and character of our leader. He never let an opportunity go by without doing good. Are we, who profess to lead others, followers of Him? Waiving the question of "becoming poor that others may be rich," can we not act at least consistent?

Some time ago it was announced that The Ministerial Association of the Brethren Church of the state of Indiana would convene at —, at ten o'clock. Programmes had been distributed throughout the town announcing the first discussion to be opened by —. Of course our Methodist and Baptist brethren with their preachers turned out to see the body of Indiana preachers. You can imagine the effect when *one preacher* filed through the door. They had come out to see and hear the ministers of the state. One preacher met them! Do you think the brethren of the church felt glad that they were members of so honorable a body? There was Mr. A, and his daughter who had often expressed a desire to be members of our church. Do you not think they were glad too—that they were *not* members? Only a portion of the congregation is smiling—the Methodist and Baptists.

And to make the matter worse, communions, appointed by brethren who knew, or ought to have known that it was their duty to be elsewhere at that time, were held in two or three of the churches in the vicinity. Such a meeting instead of being an aid and means of strength brings reproach upon our cause. Brethren, when we set out and agree to do anything

LET US DO IT.

There are men of talent in our church and others intending to come in, but if they can not do anything in a body which is so much of the time doing another thing they will go where they can.

*Let us turn a new leaf.* God is willing to help us when we help ourselves. He is only too anxious to bless us when we try to elevate His cause which is above every cause.

How He fills our souls with high

aspirations to do more when we work directly for him instead of self. Let us get out into the depths of his blessed promises, surrender our proud and corrupting dispositions to have *our own way first*, and resolve that we will do nothing to bring reproach upon His fair name.

What has been said in reference to the Indiana Association can be said in reference to our National Association, only it ought to be emphasized and "rubbed in." To agree to hold a "National Association" and then only six or eight preachers assemble adds nothing to the dignity of our cause; and is a burning shame to our ministry. So let us *turn a new leaf*. God will be strength to the weak if we but serve him in *spirit and in truth*. He will even represent the money side if we "walk in the light as he is in the light." Grand results await the servants of Christ. If we but prove ourselves faithful, great power will be bestowed upon us. May we "present our bodies a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto God which is our reasonable service; and be not conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of our minds, that we may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

Milford, Ind.

IN CHRIST.—JOHN XVII, 21.

BY C. H. BALSBAUGH.

Dr. V. M. Reichard: Beloved, Yours of 11th inst. is here. I rejoice in the indications of spiritual growth. Many humiliating and painful revelations must necessarily come to us in the clearer light of the unfolding Christ.

The word "*may*" in Philpp. III, 12 shows the Apostle's eagerness for larger visions of incarnate deity. Even now, after the lapse of eighteen centuries of direct beholding of the personal Emmanuel, that "*may*" is still the burning aspiration of the glorified Apostle. The finite can *never* compass the infinite. In our elder brother "*dwells all the fullness of the godhead bodily*," Col. ii, 9. We will never see the last revelation of "the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." II Cor. iv, 6. In Him perfection. He is "the same yesterday, today, and forever." To the saint He is an ever enlarging